

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No.: 40072-0016

Applicant(s): Hidemi ISHIKAWA et al. Confirmation No.
Appl. No.: Unassigned Examiner: Unassigned
Filing Date: Concurrently Herewith Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Title: COMPOSITION FOR USE AS SANITARY EARTHENWARE
MATERIAL, METHOD FOR PRODUCTION THEREOF, METHOD
FOR MANUFACTURING SANITARY EARTHENWARE USING
SAME COMPOSITION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56 and 37 CFR §1.97

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir: ✓

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08A is a listing of documents known to applicants in order to comply with applicants' duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97. A copy of each of the listed documents are being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.99.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(b). Applicants do not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

RELEVANCE

The foregoing documents came to the Applicants attention during a search of the corresponding international application. A copy of the International Search Report setting forth the portion of each reference considered relevant by the examiner is attached.

TIMING/FEE

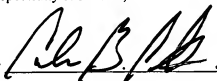
The instant Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b) prior to the mailing date of the first official action, therefore, no fee is required in connection with its filing. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 08-1641.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. §609.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3.16.05

HELLER EHRMAN WHITE &
MCAULIFFE
1717 Rhode Island Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036
Telephone: (202) 912-2000
Facsimile: (202) 912-2020

By  31,298

For: Johnny A. Kumar
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No.: 34,649

Customer No. 26633

